

CANDOUR

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Views - Letter*

To serve as a link between Britons all over the world in protest against the surrender of their world heritage

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THE GREAT YELLOW PERIL FRAUD

By A. K. CHESTERTON

FOR nearly twenty years the pundits of the popular press have been interpreting with solemn mien every move in the hocus-pocus which they have made known to their readers as "The Cold War". Not once, as far as I am aware, have they attempted to assess the overall significance of this gigantic charade—the siege of Berlin, the shelling of the off-shore islands held by Chiang Kai-shek, the appearance of Chinese troops in the impossibly remote Indian Himalayas and, on suitable occasions, of Russian submarines off Australian and Canadian waters, the bogus counter-revolution against Castro, the test-ban treaty and all the innumerable conferences that led nowhere and were never intended to lead anywhere else.

As each incident occurred, the commentators, their spectacles gleaming with innocence and self-satisfaction, have taken it at what seemed to be its face-value, explained its non-existent ramifications, and never stopped to consider that even a cold war, continued for decades, might be expected to yield something beyond mere incidental results. If questioned, they might reveal their knowledge that One World was the grand objective, and almost certainly would express their belief that the cold war stood in the way of its attainment. They would be stunned and incredulous to be told that it is the principal means directed precisely to that One World end.

SUSPICIONS UNAROUSED

The suspicions of the dear fellows were not even aroused when the late Winston Churchill, speaking at Aachen, mooted the possibility of the Soviet Union's joining the Nato alliance, which most people understood had been formed with the sole idea of containing Communism. They continued to write about the cold war even while Eden was entertaining Bulganin and Krushchev, the butcher of the Ukraine, in the banquetting halls of London. Indeed, they still write about it, although their emphasis has undergone a change—as, of course, it should have done once the Russian bear was shown by the myth-makers to have defected, as it were, to the side of the goodies. Today it is the great Chinese dragon, snorting flames, which takes the centre of the stage and within a year or two the collapsed intellect of the West, seeking its reassurance where it may, will have restored the image of Holy Russia in place of the Bolshevik abomination and that, my masters, is exactly what has been planned.

As the political commentators, with the cold war taking place under their noses, were unable to recognise shadow-fighting when they saw it, one would be asking far too much to expect them to perceive the fraudulence

of the Sino-Russian "little local difficulty" in a world so far beyond their ken. Let us consider the facts. The quarrel between Stalin and Trotsky in the twenties was represented as a conflict between Stalin's nationalism, making use of communist parties elsewhere solely as "the eyes and ears of the Soviet Union", and Trotsky's feverish desire for the world revolution. In the alleged ideological dispute between Russia and China it seems that China has been cast for the Trotskyist role. While Moscow takes its stand on "peaceful co-existence" Peking is said to be anxious to cry havoc and let loose the hell of nuclear war. What so astonishes me, and fills me with something not far from despair, is the Western gullibility that swallows without question so fantastic and wildly improbable a thesis.

MAO THE REALIST

It is the belief of the present writer, much as he detests the man's objective and abominates his means, that Mao Tse-tung is incomparably the greatest leader now living and one of the supremely great leaders of all time. This is in terms of sheer capacity—the capacity to inspire, to organise, to hold men together in times of adversity and, an even more notable achievement, to hold them together when they have drunk deep of the heady wine of triumph. Such capacity without hard-headed realism is unthinkable. As a realist, therefore, Mao must know:

- (a) That no country on earth is more bereft of a military tradition than China and that it takes more than a few years of public relations activity for that tradition to be created and forged into a spiritual munition of war,
- (b) That China lacks an industrial culture, and in its absence the best brains she can produce to work in the modern technological field will have to be employed imitatively for many generations before she can hope to compete on equal terms with the West,
- (c) That a full-scale war would increase China's dependence on Soviet industry to an extent that Peking could not but find insupportable, and
- (d) That China's vast population, variously computed at between six and eight hundred million, so far from being an asset in the waging of a nuclear war, would be a truly dreadful liability. Hunger, never far away at the best of times, would turn to famine, famine to pestilence, pestilence to anarchy and chaos as the supply-lines were dislocated and the chains of command disrupted to turn a regimented people into huge leaderless mobs at the mercy of the most ferocious bandits on earth.

If in all these circumstances it were true that Mao Tse-tung really wanted Communism to try its nuclear strength against the West, and thereby destroy the

despotic order which he has devoted his entire life to creating, he would scarcely be the unchallenged head of about seven hundred million people but a candidate for a place in some unspeakable dungeon reserved for berserk homicides. Yet because *Pravda* may make such a charge in a mock attack, and because some mannikin on the staff of the *Observer* or the *New York Times* is clever enough to read Russian, the legend gains currency throughout the West and causes almost as much terror as though it were the mushroom-shaped cloud which it is supposed to portend.

PRESTIGE VALUE

Several internationalist policies are thereby served. Billions of dollars and scores of millions of pounds have found their way under the Iron Curtain to build up colossal capitalist enterprises in the Socialist Paradise, and as some of the benefits are passed on to China Mao has no cause to complain. Nor has he reason to object to the enhanced status enjoyed by his country resulting from its replacement of the Soviet Union in the role of arch-villain of the contemporary world as depicted by Western propagandist hacks. He must chuckle at the thought of the illimitable potency, political, economic and military, attributed to his poor and primitive nation, and he is obviously more than willing to make the gestures likely to sustain the fiction. Will it be helped by the sight of Chinese faces in Zanzibar or Dar-es-Salaam or Addis Ababa? Then he will generously supply the faces. Will it be helped if seventy-five tons of Chinese arms are intercepted in Kenya on the way from Tanzania to Uganda? Then he will generously supply the arms, or if that be rather too difficult a proposition, he will at least supply the Chinese lettering to lend verisimilitude to the belief that they have a Chinese origin. Such transactions perhaps offer more than a prestige value: is it not possible that Peking is enabled to make some honest dollars in the process?

I honestly do not see why not. As it is no longer disputed that New York bankers financed the Russian revolution, I can think of no reason why they should not also have had a hand in the Red Chinese revolution. Indeed, the indications are that they did have a hand, because that is the only reasonable explanation of why General Marshall was sent to demand of Chiang Kai-shek that he join with Mao Tse-tung to form a Popular Front

Government. As a *quid pro quo* for favours received and about to be received it seems entirely natural that Mao should now allow Peking to be used as one of the several fronts behind which the Wall-St. subversion-mongers hide their identity and as a pipeline for the channelling of their funds to create unrest in Africa or anywhere else where a take-over bid impends. To expect poor, teeming, poverty-stricken China to give of its own scant pittance is too far-fetched an idea to be anything but a blind. Yet I have heard, especially in South Africa, intelligent men occupying some of the most responsible and authoritative positions express grievous concern at what they conceive to be the Chinese menace. As one who has made a long study of these matters I give them an assurance that the only menace Western man needs to fear is a menace that has its fount and origin in the West.

BORN CHINESE

Let me back this assurance by citing a B.B.C. feature intended to give exactly the opposite impression. Some readers may have seen the TV programme entitled "Born Chinese". Its constant exhortation was "Do not underrate these people", which theme it illustrated by showing them at their various occupations. The buildings in which they worked, the clothes nearly all of them wore, the fittings in the flats and houses where they lived, the telephones, the trains, the cars, the planes, the powered craft at sea, the machines, the entire complex wherein their economy existed—these things were all born of European brains. Not one single mechanical device projecting human skill or power was the child of a Chinese brain. The B.B.C. in all innocence made my point in the belief that it was making the opposite point. It showed viewers that by adapting themselves to the Western way of life, technologically at least, the Chinese—in that sense if in no other—had turned themselves into second-class Westerners, and the first-class never yet has had cause to fear the second-class except when, through sloppy-mindedness or for any other reason, it rejects its own quality, lays aside its own standards and succumbs to some sickness of its own engendering. The Great Yellow Peril is a contrived fraud, whereas the self-induced White Peril is all too terribly real.

For God's sake, while there is still time, let the West go seek a cure. The search need take it no further than the rediscovery of its own lost wits.

INTERNATIONAL TREASURY OFFICIALS PREPARE

IT was bound to come. Those of us who know the form have often wondered how long the promoters of the International Monetary Fund would be content with its present official role of regulating foreign exchange, adjusting balance of payments problems and pegging the price of gold, even taking into account its unofficial function of ensuring as far as possible that the Big Boys making international loans never emerge the losers from any transaction. There were clearly many other roles to which the I.M.F. could be expected to aspire.

Now the great advance has begun with the Fund's establishment of a full-scale fiscal affairs department. Directed by Richard Goode, described as an American public finance specialist, it is the department's job to provide member states with advice and technical assistance on all aspects of taxation, embracing policy, administration and budgetary control.

"Upon request", of course. The powers which run the world well understand the expediency of *festina lente*. But how long will it be before member states, wishing to draw on their reserves held by the I.M.F. or to incur further indebtedness to the World Bank, are ordered to accept as fiats the "advice" tendered by the fiscal affairs department? Or else . . . !

Said I.M.F. managing director, Pierre Paul Schweitzer: "We in the Fund attach great importance to fiscal and monetary savings. The avoidance of inflation is more easily achieved if the fiscal system is well designed and an efficient instrument". No doubt, even though we have to ask where to look for an example of the avoidance of inflation. Is the I.M.F.'s real concern perhaps rather less with the generation of domestic savings and rather more with the safeguarding of the various pounds of flesh placed in pawn to international finance?

Speaking of Africa, another I.M.F. official said: "We found that we have to get right down into the fiscal policies of many newly independent countries in order to help achieve the proper and sound operation of their monetary systems." *Their* systems! Is the official sure that he has got hold of the right pronoun?

The projected World Government will naturally have to be equipped with its own bureaucracy and here, bless its great big heart, is the International Monetary Fund busily at work lining up and entrenching its own Treasury officials in preparation for that most important and disastrous day.

ROTHSCHILD-OPPENHEIMER COMPLEX

THE United States Government has entered into a curious tripartite agreement with the Congolese and South African Governments. The ostensible reason is to furnish the Congo with much-needed hard currency, but there would seem to be much more to it than that. Washington is to buy about 30 million dollars worth of industrial diamonds from the Congo to prevent a sharp reduction in diamond production there and to buy further supplies of uranium from the mine dumps of the Witwatersrand. The transaction will be covered by the sale abroad of about 85 million dollars worth of "surplus" agricultural stocks.

Here is the peculiar feature of the deals with both the Congo and South Africa. The Congolese diamonds will be bought from the *Societe Miniere de Bakwanga*, described as a Belgian company, which is no doubt technically correct. But the world's diamond monopoly, whatever the names of its sub-branches, belongs to De Beers, formed by Cecil John Rhodes with Rothschild backing, and now part of the Rothschild-Oppenheimer Empire. Behind all the waffle, the American deal has obviously been made with De Beers—that is, with the Rothschild-Oppenheimer monopolists. Moreover, when Rhodes began to lay claim to a share of the Witwatersrand gold he formed for the purpose the Consolidated Goldfields of South Africa, which thus became, in part at least, yet another Rothschild front.

By no means all the mine dumps of the Rand yield uranium, but by a curious "coincidence" the largest producer there of that valuable commodity is the Luipaards Vlei mine, which happens to belong to the Consolidated Goldfields. Thus the United States Government is dealing both in the Congo and in South Africa with the Rothschild-Oppenheimer empire.

When the Katanga dispute was settled, and Tshombe returned to be Prime Minister of the Congo, with U.S. hostility towards him changed as if by magic into approbation, *Candour* expressed its conviction that the Rothschild-Oppenheimer crowd had allowed powerful New York financial interests to interpenetrate its monopoly, or near monopoly, as a means of establishing "peace". As the United States last year took over the Congo in its totality, this three-cornered barter deal would suggest one of two things. Either the American interests admitted into the monopoly have the United States Government in their pocket or else the Rothschild-Oppenheimer king-pins, doubtless in conjunction with their new American partners, now wield sufficient power to be able to command official United States patronage.

It requires only a few more such deals to make clear to such parts of the world as are not sunk in slumber precisely what went on in the Congo at the time of the U.N. attack on Katanga—and why!

CUT AND THRUST

THE Queen's visit to Germany, carried out with regal poise and dignity, would have been one of the finest portents of the future peace and stability of the world had its aim been to forge an Anglo-German alliance. There are many who believe that had such an alliance been formed sixty years ago many of the millions killed in both wars would still be alive and Christendom immeasurably the richer.

The Germans might have been "difficult" allies, but when we think of our present chief "ally", a difficult partnership seems greatly preferable to being tied to the senior partner of a traitorous and domineering alliance.

* * *

However, it was made clear at the first banquet that the main purpose of Her Majesty's visit was intended by the politicians not to form an Anglo-German alliance but to help ease Great Britain's projected entry into the European Economic Community. The West German President in his speech expressed the hope that we

should embrace a European destiny, and that hope was echoed in the Queen's reply.

How long British sovereignty would survive a European federal set-up is known: it would receive an immediate blow on the head. Would the British Monarchy survive very much longer? If so, it would in effect be reduced to a sort of impotent Grand Duchy.

* * *

Can nothing be done about Richard Dimbleby? He has worked hard during the years and surely the time is overdue for him to be put out to grass. His remarks about the Queen's visit having had the effect of bringing Germany back into the comity of nations must have filled self-respecting Germans with anger and disgust.

Whatever their faults, the Germans are a great people and for the best publicised of all Britain's commentators to adopt his attitude of lofty condescension towards them was certain not only to induce nausea but also to depict

our own country as patronising and vulgar. The Germans were, after all, Her Majesty's hosts. Either Master Richard knows no better or else he imagines that good taste is out of date—a "reactionary" virtue.

* * *

The Socialist Government, after its traitorous folly in dispensing with the superb T.S.R.2, now affirms that the money thus saved will enable Great Britain to co-operate with France and Germany in the production of other military aircraft. This can scarcely be said to gain for us on the swings what will be lost on the roundabouts.

Be nuclear weapons what they may, and whatever the potency of airborne divisions, the English Channel remains what it has always been—a major obstacle to invaders. France and Germany, however, could be overrun almost in a matter of hours. What happens then to the Continental components of joint engines of war needed for Britain's defence? I do not suppose Wilson has given the subject a single thought.

* * *

Private contacts of mine in Rhodesia (no, they are quite unconnected with the Candour League there) warned me some time ago that John Gaunt, firm opponent of compromise, would be dropped from the Ian Smith Government and that H. Howman, who left at the same time as Winston Field, would be brought back into the fold. Events prove that I was not misinformed.

It would be interesting to know what undertaking, if any, Howman has given Smith on the independence issue, upon which subject he resigned from the Cabinet in April last year. According to *The Times* John Gaunt is earmarked to represent Rhodesia in Lisbon. If so, my guess would be that this consolation prize is based on the assumption that his keen nose for the detection of "commodity" (to use Falconbridge's scornful word in *King John*) would be at a disadvantage so far removed from the centres of intrigue. I trust I am not the only one to be profoundly disturbed by recent Rhodesian trends.

* * *

A large Portuguese bank is to be established in South Africa in what is regarded "as a major step in the growing economic and political ties between the two countries". Three Portuguese banks are to supply the capital and it is also expected that a consortium of South African financial interests will invest in the enterprise. There is no doubt that an institution of this kind could do much to promote trade between the Republic and the two Portuguese territories in Southern Africa. As for political significance, much would seem to depend upon the components of the South African consortium. The links of certain firms with Angola might suggest some clues.

Thus there is the prospecting for oil by Federale Mynbou, an Afrikaner set-up which has recently been brought within the Anglo-American complex. There is also Anglo-American's participation in the fishing industries of Angola and Mozambique, to say nothing of

De Beers' predominant influence in the Portuguese diamond cutting industry. These are all Oppenheimer concerns and behind the formidable name of Oppenheimer is the still more formidable name of Rothschild. Let not either Lisbon or Pretoria look any the less askance at a wooden horse simply because its exterior may be studded with gold and diamond ornaments.

* * *

Incidentally Anglo-American is extending its empire in all directions. It has gone as far afield as Australia and come as near home as Cornwall, where—like the Phoenicians of old—it is staking an interest in tin.

One puzzle remains. What, precisely, does the second part of Anglo-American's name embrace? If one could find the answer to that question the probability is that one would uncover many of the Rothschild "fronts" in the United States.

* * *

When the South African Foundation was under heavy attack last year it declined to reply to allegations on the curious ground that its critics were trying to drag it into a dog-fight. Since then Major-General Sir Francis de Guingand has contributed to the official journal of Nato an article which for all practical purposes may be regarded as an attempted refutation of criticism directed against the Foundation by men of the standing of S. E. D. Brown and Ivor Benson. It is a forthright document affirming that South Africans would fight to the death for their way of life and taking severely to task Great Britain and the United States for their support of such subversive bodies as the Organisation for African Unity.

There is no reason for thinking that Sir Francis is anything but sincere in what he has written, but the fact remains that he has completely ignored the gravamen of the case against the Foundation. It cannot be denied that there is a very large Oppenheimer influence in the Foundation. It cannot be denied that Oppenheimer financed the Progressive Party, which is prepared to accept a Black Parliamentary majority in the foreseeable future. It cannot be denied that Oppenheimer controls virtually the entire English-speaking Press. It cannot be denied that almost every one of these newspapers backs the Progressive Party. As long as these remain the facts, the protestations of de Guingand, however eloquent and sincere, will be but as the sound of tinkling cymbals in the ears of realists who understand how little his brave words mean in relation to the daily drip-drip of the poison emanating from the Oppenheimer press. Until the poison dries up, the South African Foundation or any other concern with which Harry Oppenheimer is associated will warrant unrelenting scrutiny.

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Mrs. Barbara Castle, Minister of Overseas Development, has a joyous job which recalls that of Harry Hopkins in the heyday of the Rooseveltian New Deal. It is to flit around the world acting the part of fairy-godmother to what are euphemistically called "newly emergent nations", bestowing upon them, whatever their affiliations, huge grants-in-aid from the pockets of Britain's hard-pressed taxpayers. Thus she told the ersatz

and impossible State of Tanzania that she hoped the British taxpayers would go on adding to the £30,000,000 or so already ladled out to its pro-Communist and anti-British rulers.

A day or two before flying out to Dar-es-Salaam Mrs. Castle conferred in London with Nyerere, the President of Tanzania, whose position—and perhaps whose head—was saved not long ago by the landing in Tanganyika of a Royal Marine Commando. By way of gratitude for his rescue Nyerere, on instructions from his overseas manipulators, took the training of the Tanganyikan Army out of British hands and entrusted it, whimsical though it may seem, to an Israeli military mission. This representative of a mendicant, poverty-stricken country, together with a beggarly retinue of twenty persons, was languishing in the wattle-and-daub huts represented by a suite of 20 rooms in the London slum known as the Hilton Hotel. Barbara Castle's compassionate Socialist heart must have bled at the thought of poor Nyerere's underprivileged accommodation!

* * *

There are, I am informed, only a few Canadians living in Marseilles, mostly women married to Frenchmen—not a large enough colony, one would have thought, to justify a Canadian Consulate. Yet one has recently been established there and, what is more, Mr. Paul Martin, the Canadian Minister for External Affairs, flew over to open it. Mr. Martin spoke of the affection of Canadians for France, which is fair enough, but he then referred to France as being "*leur mere patrie*", which it certainly is not. France is the mother country only of Canadians of French descent.

During very many decades English and French-speaking Canadians, while often enough encountering certain difficulties, have lived together sensibly as adult components of one nation. Only in modern times, with the unfolding of the world-wide conspiracy to smash the British nations, has the separatism of the French-speaking element been encouraged and elevated to a major political issue. And if the sycophantic utterances of its External Affairs Minister in Marseilles are a portent, it would seem that even the disastrous Canadian Government cannot refrain from kicking the ball into its own goal.

* * *

Several readers in different parts of the world have written to ask me why a memorial should have been erected to the late President Kennedy in Britain, why Runnymede should have been selected as the site, and why the Royal cachet should have been given to the unveiling. The answer is that I simply have no clue. The only conceivable nexus would seem to be the fact that Magna Carta specifically names Jewish usury as a practice to be kept under strict control and that Kennedy, like all latter day American presidents, was a spokesman for the great money-lending houses of New York. But this quite clearly would not be a nexus that the masters of the world would desire to be commemorated.

Magna Carta is generally recognised as the basis of our civil rights and freedom. Since 1215, when it was signed, has there been no Briton so little famed for the defence of our liberties that we have had to wait 750 years

for a champion worthy of a memorial at Runnymede and that champion, as it happens, a foreigner who had shown gross discourtesy to our country and whose services to the cause of freedom are unknown even in his own land?

* * *

Last month the Oxford Union returned to its Joadian vomit of the thirties. The motion was "That this House will not fight for Queen and Country". There is little cause for satisfaction that it was defeated, albeit by a narrow majority, in view of the fact that Reginald Maudling opposed the resolution on the ground that such an attitude would not enable us to meet our obligations to Nato, while Norman St. John-Stevas somehow confounded the concept of Queen and Country with the establishing of a perfect internationalist order.

While these opponents of the motion may be dismissed as wafflers, what is to be said of a proponent such as Sir Richard Acland, who declared that he wanted British troops to be sent with Ghanaians and other U.N. riff-raff to wage war on fellow-Britons in Rhodesia and fellow-whites in South Africa? No doubt the thought that before the coming of the White man Rhodesia was a charnel-house, with Matabele sticking assegais into Mashona, never entered his nasty and entirely inadequate little head. He sneered a lot about Britain's ruling classes. It is too much to expect a cheap demagogue of the Acland kidney to do some homework on what sort of ruling classes surrounded Lobengula in the nineties and before him Msilikatze, or to visualise what sort of ruling classes surround Nkrumah, Kaunda and the other African politicians of the present day.

* * *

"We will listen". That one sentence by a member of a Government pledged to re-nationalise steel came as a life-saver to Woodrow Wyatt and his potential co-rebel who had asked what would happen if suggestions were made to enable private enterprise to retain some interest in the industry. "We will listen"—what a wonderful formula! It enabled Wyatt without more ado to vote for the Government.

Let not the Tories jeer, however. They should remember how Suez rebel Julian Amery, promoted to a post in the Government, arose in Parliament to defend the Government's Suez policy. They should also remember how the first of the Suez rebels begged the second batch of Suez rebels to come back into the fold. Incidentally, this first rebel once wrote to me in Wordsworth's words:

For dearly must we prize thee; we who find
In thee a bulwark for the cause of men.

What has happened since then? I have kept my course. But not the reformed rebel. For him it was a knighthood "for political services!" On the same principle I expect Woodrow Wyatt will one day find himself in the House of Lords!

* * *

Members of Parliament have received a letter, two sentences of which read: "The toleration and encouragement by Parliament of the coloured invasion and Jewish domination of Britain, and the racial relations Bill designed to facilitate these, constitute an act of

treason against the British nation. We give notice that it will be treated as such in the National Socialist Britain of the future, and those of you primarily responsible will then be brought to trial for this crime."

As the Speaker has ruled that the letter is *prima facie* a breach of parliamentary privilege, our comments have to be worded in the most general terms. Those of us who wish the British nations to constitute the predominant influence in world affairs, and who are convinced that this will not be possible unless the British Isles remain the homeland of peoples predominantly of Anglo-Saxon and Celtic stocks, look with contempt and loathing upon the antics of political infants (posing as politically mature patriots) who attack synagogues, insult coloured people and write silly threatening letters as full of sound and fury as they are empty of content. Instead of helping to establish a sound patriotic sentiment, by which alone our ideals can be realised, these frenzied young asses create a revulsion which makes them an unmitigated liability to the British cause. They are the Devil's gift to their country's enemies.

* * *

Before the matter was mooted in the House of Lords, eight Peers—including five Bishops—blazed a trail in the correspondence columns of *The Times* pleading for a reform of the law to allow private homosexual acts between consenting adults. In the House itself His Grace of Canterbury, in a "compassionate" speech, strongly advocated the same course, in which he is known to have the backing of His Grace of York.

Are we to assume from this that the hierarchy of the

Church of England is so satisfied with the Christian state of the land that its members feel able to take time off, as it were, to make the country fit for Sodomites to live in?

* * *

Nobody in his senses would accuse the higher reaches of the Anglican hierarchy of being sympathetic to Communism, but its members should be made aware that they are being enlisted, in all innocence, in the same subversive cause. The brave American paper *Common Sense* has this to say:

"Anti-Christian organised homosexuals are carrying a subversive anti-morals campaign into the nation's churches, universities, state legislatures and Congress to destroy sexual laws and moral codes, to legalise sodomy, promote perversion and to corrupt youth. Mrs. Connie Clare Chandler, president of the Liberty League, U.S.A., a patriotic conservative group combating communism and subversive liberalism, made the charge in a bulletin to league members."

Mrs. Chandler, quoting a homosexual organisation, discloses its boast of having at least 200,000 homosexuals in federal government and a quarter of a million in the armed forces. If the West is destroyed it will not be by nuclear weapons but by its own fly-blown corruption. What is needed for survival is not "compassionate" speeches but that loathing which one would expect to be natural but which the subverters are doing their best to make unnatural.

* * *

The Minister for Justice in New South Wales has suggested that docks in courts should be abolished because they give people on trial an inferiority complex.

Why stop there? Why not ensconce the prisoner on a glittering throne and arraign before him the whole of society which, according to our modern trick-cyclists, is really responsible for his misdeeds. How mad can the world become?

THE NEW UNHAPPY LORDS

THERE has been a brisk demand for A. K. Chesterton's forthcoming book

THE NEW UNHAPPY LORDS

An Exposure of Power Politics

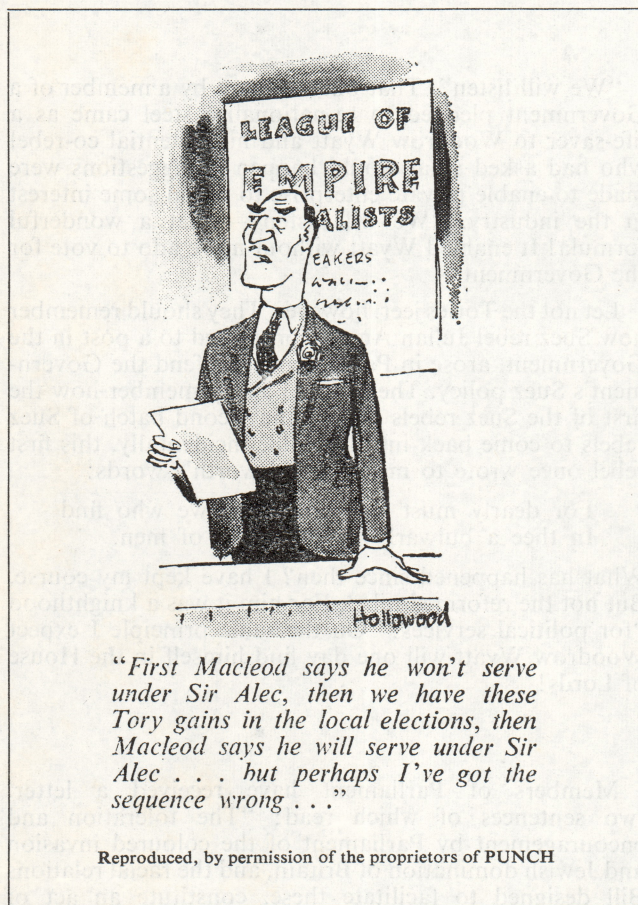
Several hundred copies of the cloth-bound edition have been ordered. Those wishing to procure the special autographed edition printed on special paper should send in their orders without delay, as the edition is to be limited and the demand has been heavy.

It is hoped that "The New Unhappy Lords" will provide a complete answer to those who dismiss the case for the conspiratorial interpretation of modern history as the belief of political oddities and cranks. The book will save endless arguments on matters of fact and compel the respectful attention of every intelligent and open-minded reader in Great Britain, in the British nations overseas, in the United States and in South Africa.

The only way to make sure of obtaining a copy is to send in an order without delay.

Order forms are enclosed.

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CHILE: THE BATTLE OF THE WILLS

By AIDAN MACKEY

ROBERT KEY JEFFERY, an Englishman, lived in Chile for the greater part of his life, and established there the foundations of his great fortune. He never lost, however, his great love for England, and he sorrowed at the post-war decline of her international influence and prestige, particularly regretting the ousting of Britain's interests by what has been called 'Dollar imperialism'. Jeffery long followed the writings of the brilliant Right-wing journalist, A. K. Chesterton, and, in 1953, encouraged him to launch his own journal, *Candour*, to attack every politician, however powerful, who aided the betrayal of the national interest. Hated and feared by the established parties, *Candour* was kept in being by the efforts of a small group of patriots, and its largest single backer was R. K. Jeffery.

FREE GIFTS

The donations made by Jeffery were always made directly and unconditionally as a free gift to Chesterton to be used at his absolute discretion. This indicates the paper's complete freedom from outside interference, and also the trust Jeffery felt able to repose in a man he had never met. Chesterton, for his part, had not only forsaken his successful career but, by the vigour of his attacks on the nation's leaders, had made it impossible ever to return to Fleet Street. From the funds at his disposal he took only necessary and immediate living expenses, keeping no savings to safeguard his personal future.

Jeffery and A.K.C. corresponded constantly throughout the years until failing eyesight made writing difficult for Jeffery. He kept undimmed, however, his strong admiration for Chesterton and his concern for the future of Britain. (Despite deep affection for Chile, he became a citizen of that country only for convenience and in his last years.) He assured Chesterton that provision had been made both for his personal needs and for the future of the paper, and instructed his Santiago broker that certain securities were, on his death, to be sent without delay to Chesterton.

NEW WILL

Late in 1959, Jeffery made a new Will in which, after minor provisions, Chesterton was named as sole universal heir to the entire estate. The document was a sealed Will, made before the Notary of Santiago, witnessed by Jeffery's lawyer, Don Fillipe Aguirre Herrera, and deposited in the Confidential Undertakings Dept of the Bank of Chile. A certified copy, in Spanish, bearing the stamp of the Bank of Chile, was sent to Chesterton, reaching him on Christmas Eve, 1959.

Jeffery was then in his late 80's, and the future of the paper and the movement which had grown from it seemed assured. Even then, though still shrewd and alert, he betrayed signs of physical deterioration. His letters became fewer, for a reason given in a note sent in May 1960, acknowledging the receipt of accounts for the financial year just ended:

"I have just received yours of April 30th and enclosures which are in all respects satisfactory . . . My struggle to live and get about is due principally to eyesight."

Unable to read much, and with a gradually clouding mind, Jeffery failed to grasp that although he had provided for the paper's future, there was still the problem facing Chesterton of keeping it in being until the fortune came to him. Apart from a comparatively small sum sent to enable Chesterton to obey his doctor's order to winter in a warm climate, he sent no further funds to London. Eventually, seemingly secure in the expectation of the inheritance, Chesterton accepted loans from supporters to secure the continuation of *Candour*. During all negotiations on this score, Jeffery was kept fully informed and, knowing the circumstances, he would beyond doubt have regarded it as binding upon himself to make repayment possible whatever changes he might conceivably make, later, in his other dispositions.

INTEREST UNWEAKENED

In October 1960 Jeffery went south to La Union, his old home, to live on the estate of an erstwhile neighbour, Alberto Lacoste. In the previous month, his interest in *Candour* unweakened, he had written:

"I enclose Balance Sheets of my two principal investments in Chile, by which you will see that they are fairly secure, as far as anything can be foreseen in these critical times. Keep me informed of any unexpected financial difficulties that may occur."

In early October he wrote again to give his new address and to arrange the distribution of *Candour* to Senators, Deputies and other public figures in Chile. In November he sent £500 to ensure that Chesterton again escaped the English winter which threatened his health. In December he sent a Christmas card and a short note.

LAST WORD

There was nothing after this until, on March 13th 1961, he sent a cutting reporting a Chilean earthquake, saying:

"My sight does not allow me to keep up correspondence, but I enclose the latest catastrophe in Tierra del Fuego, which was not possible to foresee. Nevertheless, they will survive it. Yours sincerely, R.K.J."

That was the last word to reach England from Jeffery. Several important letters, sent soon afterwards, remained unacknowledged, even including the annual accounts. Chesterton wrote to the lawyer Aguirre for news, and to this came no reply. Months passed, and disquiet deepened into the certainty that the silence was sinister. Meanwhile, funds were dangerously low, and *Candour* faced crisis.

At length, in July 1961, Chesterton sent me to investigate. The situation which I found in Chile, and the events since then, make an amazing story.

On April 17th 1961, Mr. Jeffery was admitted to the hospital at La Union, suffering from arteriosclerosis, gangrene, a strangulated hernia, and uremia. It was decided that there was no possibility of a successful

operation, and that all that could be done would be to drug him to relieve the pain until the end released him. The Director of the hospital, Dr. Perez, was confident that death would take place within hours or at most, two days. In fact he lingered, heavily drugged, until April 22nd. His condition before death was such that when he received, three days before death, the Last Sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church, he was unable to take the Communion wafer.

EXTRAORDINARY DOCUMENT

On the day following the death, there appeared before the Notary of La Union Maria Elba Smith, claiming possession of Mr. Jeffery's estate, and presenting as title an open Will, drawn up on April 21st, recognising her as natural daughter and naming her as sole heir. Elba Smith had been the ward and companion of Mr. Jeffery for many years but he had broken off relations with her after her marriage to an ex-employee who had been dismissed for irregularities during Mr. Jeffery's absence abroad. She claimed that there had been a death-bed reconciliation and that the new Will was the outcome of this. The document presented was faulty in many respects and was unsigned, attestation having been made by a witness taking Mr. Jeffery's thumb and impressing it in place of a signature. Nevertheless, on the basis of this extraordinary document, drawn up fifteen hours before the death of this drugged and desperately ill man of 91 years, possession was eventually granted.

The sealed Will, in favour of Mr. Chesterton, lay still with the Bank of Chile in Santiago and, by Chilean law, could be opened only by solemn procedure by a Court of law. The next development, however, was the revelation of the astonishing behaviour of the lawyer, Aguirre, for it transpired that as soon as the new document came into existence a representative of Elba Smith telephoned the news to Aguirre, saying that the previous Will was now superseded, and advising him to make no communication to Mr. Chesterton.

TAMELY COMPLIED

Not only did Aguirre tamely comply with this, although as Trustee he should have safeguarded the integrity of the sealed Will, and the interests of Mr. Chesterton, but he passed on letters from London to Elba Smith's lawyers, and—in his capacity of lawyer employed by the Bank of Chile—actually handed over the sealed Will to Elba Smith! When faced with the demand of the Court that the sealed Will be produced, Elba Smith declared that her husband, Roberto Zencovic, had lost it whilst travelling by bus to the lawyer retained by them. Accordingly, Sr. Marco A. Cariola, acting for Mr. Chesterton, brought against Zencovic in the First Criminal Court of Santiago, a charge of defraudation by concealment of a public document, for such is a sealed Will. Sr. Cariola succeeded in proving, in Court, that buses do not even stop at the corner at which Zencovic claimed to have alighted on the journey on which the Will was lost. Eventually, however, Zencovic was released on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to prove conclusively that he had deliberately destroyed or secreted the Will, and this decision was later upheld by the Court of Criminal Appeal.

After this there followed a further criminal action in the Santiago Court, this time for falsification of the Will

of April 21st 1961, and witnesses to that document were placed under arrest. Not only, however, did those charged find ways of accounting for serious discrepancies in their previous stories, but they varied declarations by 'remembering' matters which strengthened the case for the death-bed Will. For instance, the Notary who was present had on a previous occasion testified that Mr. Jeffery had answered questions only with the word 'Yes'. Chilean law declares that a Will cannot be validated by unsupported affirmatives. In testimony to the Court, the Notary remembered that when asked if he agreed that he wished to leave his estate to Elba Smith, Mr. Jeffery replied, 'Yes, to her'. One point of very great importance was elicited by Mr. Chesterton's lawyer. This was an admission by the Notary that, in drawing up the death-bed Will, Mr. Jeffery was not specifically asked if he wished to revoke all previous Wills. Under Chilean law, this means that the previous Will can co-exist with the new one, even if this is not upset, and the estate would therefore be shared. This is, of course, dependent upon the sealed Will in favour of Mr. Chesterton being produced.

NEXT MOVE

The situation as it now stands is that had the sealed Will of 1959, naming Mr. Chesterton as sole heir, been available when demanded by the Chilean Courts, then under it he would have been awarded a half of the total inheritance, even had the document of 1961 remained in the field as a valid Will. The next move in this battle for justice, therefore, will hinge directly upon this issue and is expected to involve a major legal action for compensation against one of Chile's most powerful financial institutions. Chesterton's lawyers were instructed by him to start proceedings and it is understood that a detailed report upon this decisive stage is soon to reach Mr. Chesterton from Chile.

Readers will be kept in touch with progress.

Chesterton, a man of no little determination, will not rest until restitution is made to the Movement of which the late R. K. Jeffery was so great a benefactor, even if he has to make the facts known, in Spanish, throughout South America.

MONTHLY CANDOUR

THIS June number of Candour is an enlarged number and its size should not be regarded as the norm.

Instructions have been given that, like the May number, it should be sent to everybody on our large mailing list, which means everybody who has been receiving free of charge the *Candour Interim Reports*.

A gratifyingly large number of subscriptions have been received and many useful donations, large and small, have been made to our fighting funds. Yet there are many whom we know wish to subscribe who have not yet filled in the form, and several promises of financial support remain unredeemed, no doubt because of holidays or other preoccupations.

We must again stress that battles cannot be fought without ammunition and that the ammunition for a patriotic crusade means money—as much money as our supporters can afford.

Except for a few people in key governmental posts at home and overseas, subsequent numbers of *Candour* will be sent only to subscribers.

HOW CHRISTIAN IS CHRISTIAN ACTION?

By D. S. FRASER HARRIS

"THE Church, in communist eyes", says Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in his book *Masters of Deceit*, "is an 'enemy' institution to be infiltrated, subverted, and bent to serve Party aims." He quotes William Z. Foster, a former chairman of the Communist Party, U.S.A., as saying:

"In consequence, the anti-religious Communist Party is now to be found in close united co-operation with dozens of churches and other religious organizations on questions of immediate economic and political interest to the toiling masses."

There can be few readers of *Candour* who have not been deeply shocked and concerned by the questionable attitudes on the part of the Christian churches towards such vital political and moral issues as International Communism, Apartheid, "Colonialism", homosexuality and coloured immigration. A recent example is to be found in an advertisement which appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* on 11 December last year, sponsored by Christian Action, of which Canon L. John Collins is chairman, appealing for funds "to feed and aid the thousands of dependants of people persecuted for their opposition to Apartheid."

ADVERTISEMENT WITHDRAWN

On 8 February this year the *Daily Telegraph* announced that the advertisement had been withdrawn "after representations by the South African Embassy and others that parts of the advertisement were misleading." Apparently this advertisement had also appeared in other newspapers, for the announcement added that "The matter was taken up by the newspapers concerned and by the Newspaper Proprietors' Association with the advertisers as soon as the possibility of readers being misled was drawn to their attention." The sequence of events, as far as the present writer is concerned, and which led to this withdrawal, are as follows: on 16 December, the following letter was sent to the editor of *The Daily Telegraph*:

On 11 December you published an advertisement sponsored by Christian Action appealing for funds to underwrite the legal costs of, and to help support the dependants of "people persecuted for their opposition to Apartheid" in South Africa.

A photograph of the late Vuyisile Mini, executed on 6 Nov. this year, is shown with the following words in very large type beneath: NO GREATER SACRIFICE. In smaller type we are told that:

"Vuyisile Mini chose death because of his loyalty to his friend and fellow worker. He would not betray Wilton Mkwayi who, with four others, is charged with sabotage."

But according to *Report from South Africa* for December this year, issued by the South African Embassy in London, Vuyisile Mini and two others were executed for the murder of a witness on a sabotage hearing—a very different matter.

Many of the acts of sabotage in South Africa have

resulted in the deaths or maiming of a number of innocent people. In the Rivonia trial most of the accused admitted being Communists and that they had been engaged in violent revolutionary activities on behalf of Communism. So conclusive was the evidence of elaborate and detailed planning, guerilla warfare and bloody revolution, that the defence conceded in written admissions, at the end of the case for the prosecution, that six of the accused were guilty on various charges of the indictment. Yet not one of them was sentenced to death. They richly deserved their sentence, which was life imprisonment. It is the obvious duty of all judicial courts to enforce law and order, and in dealing with the sabotage cases the South African courts have shown great magnanimity.

Does Christian Action refute the statement that Vuyisile Mini was hanged for murder, and the disclosures that most of the saboteurs have been acting in furtherance of the aims of atheistic Communism?

Yours faithfully,

D. S. Fraser Harris.

CONTENTS HEADED

This letter was not published, although the contents appear to have been heeded, as the subsequent events disclosed. Consequently, on 31 December, the present writer wrote a similar letter to the Charity Commissioners. In this it was remarked how curiously selective Christian Action was in its compassion, for at that time white men, women and children, including a number of Christian missionaries, were being murdered in the Congo and subjected to other inhumanities by the Communist rebels, without arousing the humanitarian instincts of Christian Action. Not having received a reply by 14 January, the present writer again wrote to the Charity Commissioners informing them that he was now addressing his complaint to the South African Ambassador and Scotland Yard. This time a reply was received, stating that the Charity Commissioners were considering what action should be taken if it should be shown that funds had been expended for non-charitable purposes. The South African Ambassador in his reply thanked the writer for his initiative in endeavouring to put right the gross misrepresentation in the advertisement. In a further letter the present writer reminded the Charity Commissioners that one of the organisers of Christian Action was the notorious South African agitator Solly Sachs, who had recently returned from a fund-raising mission in Australia; that Canon Collins had invited such prominent subversive propagandists as Paul Robeson and, more recently, the Reverend Martin Luther King, to take part in services at St. Paul's Cathedral, and that according to a former agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Reverend Martin Luther King belonged to 60 Communist-front organisations.

The writer also reminded the Commissioners that during last summer some extreme Left-wing groups, including M.P.s and members of Christian Action, took part in an anti-Apartheid protest march to South Africa

House, in Trafalgar Square, and that Bob Crisp, the South African fast bowler, who now lives in England, had commented to *Time & Tide* (issue of 18-24 June 1964) in the following terms:

"The revolutionary plot was no furtive pipe dream. Was it to support such a revolution that British M.P.s paraded? Is a bloody and bestial war the sort of Christian action that Christian Action is praying for?" When the *Daily Telegraph* announcement was published on 8 February, it stated that:

"The advertisement did not record the fact that Mini was convicted with two others of organising the murder of Sipo Mange, and that the verdict of the Court was that 'each of the three accused is guilty of murder with no extenuating circumstances'."

In a letter to the editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, published on 10 February, Canon Collins sought to defend the wording of his advertisement. In this letter he stated:

"... May I state initially that Mr. V. Mini was executed for complicity in a murder and not for actually committing a murder, as the report suggests...? At the time the advertisement originally appeared Christian Action believed that the circumstances leading to the imposition of the death sentence and the execution of Mr. V. Mini and two others were widely known. His case had been given world-wide publicity... However, when it was pointed out to us by the Newspaper Proprietors Association that the advertisement might mislead those who did not know the facts, we immediately withdrew that edition of it and compiled another, fully meeting the objections raised.

"To our astonishment the Newspaper Proprietors Association then rejected the second advertisement, after submitting it to South Africa House for approval, on totally new grounds, one being that the murdered man should not be described as a 'police informer', but as a 'witness for the prosecution.'"

WELL-KNOWN STRATAGEMS

Five days later a letter from the present writer was published in *The Daily Telegraph*. In it, when referring to Canon Collins's admission that Vuyisile Mini had been executed for complicity in a murder, he said:

"This is a most interesting admission, for in the advertisement which appeared in your issue of Dec. 11 last there is no suggestion that Vuyisile Mini or his accomplices had been involved in a murder at all..."

Anyone reading the advertisement must have been considerably moved to learn that on Nov. 6 last year a noble-hearted African had been executed with two others merely because he had refused to testify against a friend and fellow worker...

Understandably, from the point of view of the Christian Action appeal, there is no mention of the Communist connection in the advertisement, which is a classic example of the use of the well-known stratagems *suppressio veri* and *suggestio falsi*.

By thus attempting to justify his advertisement Canon Collins only succeeds in condemning himself and his organisation."

Immediately below the above letter there appeared another one, from Mr. W. S. Yeoward, Director of the South Africa Foundation, which was brief and very much to the point.

"Sir, Canon Collins admits that the advertisement he published on behalf of Mr. V. Mini was withdrawn because it might mislead those who did not know the facts.

This advertisement was published for the specific purpose of collecting funds. Perhaps the Canon could inform us what has happened to the money so collected. Surely it would not be correct to retain it after admitting, by withdrawal, that the advertising copy was tendentious."

Canon Collins did not take up this challenge.

At about the same time that Vuyisile Mini and his accomplices were hanged, a school teacher named Frederick John Harris was sentenced to death in Pretoria Supreme Court after being found guilty of the murder of a 77-year-old woman who died as a result of a bomb explosion in Johannesburg railway station on July 24 last (vide *The Daily Telegraph*, Nov. 7 1964). He was also found guilty on two counts of sabotage, and admitted preparing and placing the bomb in Johannesburg station. *Time & Tide* published photographs of a mother and her 3-year-old daughter who were severely injured in this (or possibly another similar) bomb explosion in Johannesburg station. These were two of the twenty-three victims of this single outrage. Beneath the photographs it is stated that:

"Police investigators have stated that anti-apartheid groups were responsible, and there is a strong possibility that Communist agents had a hand in the tragedy." One of the paragraphs in the Christian Action advertisement reads:

"The legal costs for the political trials now being held is £50,000. An identical sum is needed to feed and aid the thousands of dependants of people persecuted for their opposition to Apartheid."

Is it very unfair to ask how Christian is Christian Action, when it makes public appeals in support of the perpetrators of such terrible outrages? Since many of the victims have been Christian whites, and the perpetrators atheistic Communists, what other explanation can there be than that the underlying motive is not Christian charity but sympathy with the subversive cause? The Christian Church, as a whole, has become so infiltrated and indoctrinated by clever Communist and fellow-travelling propaganda that Christianity is now equated with Left-wingism. Canon Collins, although not himself a communist, seems to accept this position. Christian clerics will publicly denounce patriotic, right-wing views and even Christian governments, such as that of South Africa, and at the same time appeal for a better understanding of atheistic Communism.

VALUABLE INFORMATION

Since the incident of the Christian Action advertisement, there has come into the hands of the present writer a copy of a recently published book, *The Puppeteers*, by Harold Soref and Ian Greig (*Tandem Books Ltd.*) which contains some valuable information concerning those organisations and bodies, of which Christian Action is one, which are implicated in the elimination of white, Christian influence from Africa. This book reveals that on a previous occasion, in 1962, Christian Action had inserted an incorrect appeal about Rhodesia. It contained not one but several inaccuracies, and was published over the names of Canon Collins and a number of other

well-known personalities. The then Rhodesian Federal High Commissioner, Sir Albert Robinson, "drew attention of the signatories to the inaccuracies of the various statements and the completely false picture it presented." Apparently thirty of these signatories apologised to Sir Albert for "unfortunate errors", and the account relates that "The Rev. Thomas Corbishley, Superior of Farm Street Church, insisted 'I withdraw my name from any further appeals'." Some of the signatories did not apologise. "However", say the authors, "the funds received from the appeal were not returned to the donors."

The authors also state that the activities of the Rhodesian Christian Action Group have led to violence and disobedience, setting African against African. "A number of Africans", they say, "are known to have participated against their will—intimidated and coerced."

It appears that Canon Collins is one of twenty-three persons on the National Committee of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, and that some of these are also sponsors of the Defence and Aid Fund of Christian Action. One of these, Lord Fenner Brockway, is also chairman of the Movement for Colonial Freedom. This latter Movement, the authors inform us, in their first policy statement declared that the Movement must "create a psychological revolution throughout the colonies." Canon Collins is also a sponsor of this Movement.

SPONSORS

Among the sponsors of Christian Action are Mr. Harold Wilson, Professor J. D. Bernal (a Lenin Peace Prize winner and President of the British Communist Party's seminary Marx Memorial Library), Mrs. Barbara Castle, Lord Boyd Orr (who was sponsor of the Moscow Peace Congress in July 1962, and the British Peace Council's inspired National Congress for Peace and Disarmament in 1963), Mr. Kingsley Martin (who with Lord Boyd Orr supports the British Humanist Association, which recently sponsored the Agnostic Bureau), Sir Julian Huxley (atheist and sponsor of the Defence and Aid Fund of Christian Aid, and President of the British Humanist Association).

The authors of *The Puppeteers* draw attention to the vagueness of the Terms of Reference of the Defence and Aid Fund of Christian Action, and remark, with regard to Clause 3, that "one can go as far as to say that this clause would make it possible for the Fund to lend aid

to subversion in South Africa." The authors cannot, understandably, restrain their indignation when reminding their readers that:

"Christian Action was silent over the plight of the British missionaries in the Congo, the mass floggings and genocide in Zanzibar and the deportations from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania as well as the butchery of 30,000 Tutsis and 600 of Alice Lenshina's Lumpa Church followers in Zambia."

WILLIAMS CASE

The authors also remind us that on another occasion, last year, Christian Action used the funds at their disposal in an attempt to bring discredit upon the South African Government and people. This was the case of the Williams family in South Africa, for whom Christian Action raised £2,000 to bring these so-called "victims of apartheid" to this country. The authors relate that:

"The *Guardian* of the 14th April, 1964 quoted Mr. Bloomberg (the Christian Action Cape Town representative in this case) as saying that he had been assured by Christian Action that the Williamses were not being exploited as part of an anti-South African propaganda campaign. It is suggested that the subsequent words and deeds of Mr. Ian Henderson and others connected with Christian Action did not accord with this statement upon the arrival of the Williams family in Britain."

On the 2nd April, the *Guardian* stated:

"Mr. John Williams is coloured, but it became more and more apparent yesterday, as he and his wife answered questions for more than three hours on end, that apartheid was not the only or even the main reason why they sold up their home in Cape Town and came to Britain."

The authors of the book dryly comment that "the newspaper and television reports were worth very much more in advertising Christian Action and denigrating South Africa."

The extent to which the warm-hearted, largely unpolitically minded British public has responded to these Christian Action appeals is revealed by the authors, who state that up to 30th June 1963, as much as £251,000 had been collected. It is hoped that the foregoing disclosures will help the British public to judge whether these appeals, in connection with South Africa and Rhodesia, are inspired by Christian or Communist aims.

BROTHERHOOD—OR BIG BROTHERHOOD ?

By AUSTEN BROOKS

IT is a fairly safe bet that when the *Daily Mirror* comes out with a leading article under the gushing headline: "Into the 20th Century" it will be found to be hailing a further step along the road to monopoly. It was thus no surprise to find under this headline in the *Mirror* of May 24 a paean of praise for what it called "a heartening forecast" by Mr. Victor Feather, assistant general secretary of the Trades Union Congress. This, in the *Mirror's* words, was:

"He reckons that within five years ninety per cent of Britain's workers will be represented by fewer than TWENTY trade unions.

"At the moment, some 170 unions are affiliated to the T.U.C.

"But Mr. Feather reports that about a third of them are already discussing mergers and amalgamations. He believes that most of the discussions will be successful."

The prospect produced in the *Mirror* a sort of oratorical orgasm. "It is," it declared in the boldest type it could find, "a consummation devoutly to be wished."

Perhaps so! But by whom? Certainly not by the ordinary working man, who not only wants his union to act in the best interests of himself and his workmates, but also presumably wants to have some knowledge of

and control over the union officials who claim to do so.

Among the questions which the ordinary trade unionist should ask himself is whether the reduction in the number of unions is likely to stop when the 170 have been reduced to 20. If it is more "Twentieth Century" to have 20 unions instead of 170, is it not even more "Twentieth Century" to have 10? And even more so to have five? And would it not be the ultimate in "Twentieth Centuryness" to have only one union "representing" all British workers?*

Having a nasty, suspicious mind, I came to the conclusion a long time ago that the Press campaign against "demarcation strikes" was inspired not so much by a desire to expose the undoubtedly absurd nature of some of these strikes as by the opportunity which the more absurd of them presented to undermine the idea that trade unionism should have anything to do with craftsmanship. If it has always been recognised as the job of Union A to drill holes in Substance Z and of Union B to drill holes in Substance Y, and if technological progress (which is something quite different from "progress") introduces a process in which one man drills holes through both Substance Y and Substance Z, it should clearly not be necessary for a strike to be called to decide whether that one man should belong to Union A or Union B. It should obviously be possible to settle such problems amicably. Great as is the absurdity of resorting to strike action in such cases, however, it is nothing like as great as the absurdity of suggesting that the problem could be best overcome by the merging of the one group of craftsmen belonging to Union A with the other group of craftsmen belonging to Union B in an amorphous mass to be called the Amalgamated Union of As and Bs. This, nevertheless, has repeatedly been the suggestion. What many people may not have realised is that the suggestion was not intended to be judged on its merits, but was part of a "crusade".

NEAT TOUCH

"If Britain," said the *Mirror*, "can reduce her scores of unions to twenty major units (there are only 16 in West Germany) it will be a major breakthrough. For the trade union movement itself and for the nation. For years modern-minded T.U.C. leaders have been urging reform of the antiquated trade union structure. The first crusade—inspired by T.U.C. general secretary George Woodcock—seemed to falter and founder because of the selfish, self-interested attitude of many individual unions. And because of inter-union jealousies and power rivalries."

That last is a neat touch. Who is going to suspect that the newspaper which so deplores "power rivalries" is

* (Anybody who answers this question in the affirmative should go to the bottom of the class, after receiving psychiatric treatment to be cured of the dread disease of "narrow nationalism". Those who think that the ultimate in "Twentieth Centuryness" would be one union "representing" all European workers are either "progressing" satisfactorily or suffering from the equally dread disease of reactionary racism. Top marks to those who believe the "Twentieth Century" ultimate to be one union representing all the workers of the world. The Universal Workers' Union must await the Twenty-first Century.)

helping in the creation of a power monopoly? A monopoly of power, that is to say, not on behalf of the working man, but over the working man, on the pattern of the Soviet trade unions. From what I know of George Woodcock—unless he has changed radically since attaining the general secretaryship of the T.U.C.—such an idea would be entirely repugnant to him, if he realised what the idea really was. That the "crusade" should have been inspired by him is unlikely in the extreme. That its true inspirators should have persuaded him and other people that the idea was in fact his is, alas, much less unlikely, and it would probably never occur either to him or to Mr. Feather that the term "modern-minded" may merely be an euphemism for "easily duped".

It is as true for trade unions as it is for industries that "rationalisation" is merely a stage on the road to monopoly, and Mr. Woodcock and Mr. Feather—to say nothing of Britain's millions of rank-and-file trade unionists—would do well to ponder the implications of some remarks made by Mr. George Middleton, general secretary of the Scottish T.U.C., at its Easter conference five years ago. Mr. Middleton explained that "the Labour movement was not against large-scale private enterprise because the road from this sort of enterprise to Socialist enterprise was much shorter than the road from small, private enterprise to Socialist enterprise. Small enterprises were a stumbling block. The building trade was an example. The road to Socialism could be that along which monopoly capitalism and public ownership could go together, merging into what the Labour movement desired." If by "the Labour movement" Middleton meant the great mass of trade unionists, he was making an untenable assumption in supposing that what they "desired" was total monopoly, but his thesis otherwise was tenable enough. And what is sauce for the private enterprise goose is sauce for the trade union gander.

NOT FORTUITOUS

The holding up of West Germany as an example of "Twentieth Centuryness" with its "only 16" major trade union units was not fortuitous. It coincided with another example of "Twentieth Centuryness" in the announcement of the Government's intention to get rid of all those antiquated inches and pounds and pints and "go metric". It came also at a time when the whispering campaign among businessmen that entry into the European Common Market would "cut the unions down to size" had been well and truly launched, so that those who had proved receptive to the campaign would hear an echo of the whispers in the *Mirror's* conclusion: "If British industry is to forge ahead in world markets it is not only managements and boards of directors which must be shaken out of slumbrous complacency. The unions are a vital element in industrial efficiency. The sooner they achieve a Twentieth Century line-up the better." And what is the phrase which the Common Marketeers themselves use to describe their prescription for Great Britain's economic ills? It is that we must be "dragged kicking and screaming into the Twentieth Century".

To these people, none of the past six-and-a-half decades has been truly the Twentieth Century. When, then, will true "Twentieth Centuryness", as they wish to see it, be achieved? According to the late George Orwell, we have another nineteen years to go.